World Alliance News Letter

The purpose of the Church Peace Union and World Alliance is to promote international friendship and peace, and to mobilize into a conscious force for international goodwill all men and women who share in the great hope of a world in which war will have been abolished. The World Alliance News Letter *is published every month, except July and August, by the Church Peace Union and the American Council of the World Alliance. The* News Letter *is sent to all members of the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches. Individual membership $1.00 a year. Quantity rates for churches and schools.*

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Poisoning The Well

Honest information fairly presented is as important to democracy as uncontaminated wells were to the people of Biblical times. In ancient days, the most deadly and contemptible act of the enemy was to poison the wells from which came life-giving water; but only the most barbaric people, the cowardly, sneaking, irresponsible groups, resorted to the infamy of slipping in under cover of darkness to poison the wells; and on such enemies was inflicted the most drastic of penalties. In our own time, we are cursed with enemies within our gates who are dropping poison into the founts of modern life. Sedulously they pollute the newspapers, magazines and radio networks which are the reservoirs of information, understanding, and appreciation in our common life. Against these enemies we must wage an unceasing struggle.

For the moment let's drop all metaphors and speak bluntly: in a military sense, we have now clearly won this war waged at such a frightful cost of blood and treasure to protect our democratic way of life. If this way of life is to be preserved, a longer and, in some ways, harder struggle lies ahead, a struggle which demands no less devotion and even more intelligence.

If this world is ever again to be a decent place, we must live in peace with our neighbors. Specifically — and as a first requisite — the cooperation among the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, who have fought the war so effectively, must be preserved to wage peace. Anything that destroys this harmony and this unity may lead, as Secretary Stettinius has warned us, "to another outbreak of a still greater and more devastating worldwide conflict."

Nearly every thoughtful person would grant these facts. But what is transpiring at this very hour? Columnists and commentators, newspapers and magazines who should give us honest news are now poisoning the wells, if not by actual lies, at least by distortion.

Take one commonplace instance. When the powers were discussing a knotty issue at San Francisco, a certain newspaper announced in screaming headlines: "Soviet Union and Western Powers At Breaking Point!" Now the careful reader could discover the falsity of the headline from the article that followed. But few readers read their papers that carefully.

Another instance: A well-known Congresswoman reported a fortnight ago in a radio address after her return from abroad, that our Government, to protect itself against Russian communism, "should support every European statesman who is not a communist or a fascist, regardless of what else his convictions are." Here is no statement weighing the pros and cons of a system of government, but simply a fanatical appeal to passion and prejudice based on half-truths slanted to meet a particular point of view.

And again — some senators on a recent junket to Europe asked American soldiers how they would like to fight Russia now! Fortunately G.I. common sense discomfited the senators and frustrated this arrant nonsense.

Such mischievous pastimes are going on continuously. Too many headline writers, editors, molders of public opinion, and even people in high office, are ready to distort and villify every act of Great Britain; and even more of Russia. These people are succeeding in their efforts to sow hate and distrust at the very time when the future of the world demands mutual trust.

To condemn such people is not to argue that everything Russia and Great Britain do needs to be praised and accepted. Genuine friendship does not thrive on uncritical adulation. But friendship is impossible in an atmosphere of undiscriminating fault-finding and of carping criticism based on suspicion. In national, as well as in personal relationships, we need an attitude of fairmindedness, a readiness to allow for differences without imputing evil motives.

Items of Interest

Dexters Commissioned For Europe

The Executive Committee of the Church Peace Union at its April meeting received a report from Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Dexter regarding the present situation of the World Alliance in Europe and its prospects for future usefulness. After consideration of this report, the Committee asked the Dexters to return to Europe as its representatives. The work abroad has been badly disrupted by the war; many difficulties lie ahead; and no detailed plans can be announced yet. The spirit in which Dr. and Mrs. Dexter undertake their task is indicated by the concluding paragraph of their report:

> Many acute tensions between nations caused by the war and increased by post-war suffering must be anticipated. One such problem directly concerns the United States, and all Americans in Europe. It it recognized everywhere that our country must play a large part in post-war affairs; American money and American energy are sorely needed in trying to make the world once more a decent place in which to live. Unfortunately fear of American domination has been and still is a major item of Nazi propaganda. This poison has sunk into the minds of even our friends. They realize that they need American help, but they are afraid of being rebuilt exactly according to American blueprints. This fear cannot be wiped out by gifts alone, however generous. It can be exorcised only if Americans can practise that most difficult of virtues—*humility*. They must learn to consult rather than to dictate. This will often mean delay as well as compromise, but firm foundations can be laid only through patience, understanding, and a willingness to work together toward a common goal.

Interfaith Meeting in Geneva

Dr. Andre Bouvier, the chairman of the Swiss National Council of the World Alliance, reports that on May 18 there was a canton-wide observance of International Goodwill Day in Geneva under the joint auspices of the Alliance and Interconfessional groups of leaders in the Swiss Churches, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish. The meeting was opened by the Roman Catholic Vicar General of Geneva and the closing address was given by the Grand Rabbi of Switzerland. Dr. Bouvier himself gave the main address entitled "We Must Unite in The Cause of Peace or Perish." This meeting is one of the first indications that interfaith cooperation to ameliorate war sufferings in Europe is being carried over into unified action for ends common to all, the most important of which are international goodwill and understanding.

New York Conference on UNCIO

On June 23, an all day conference will be held at the Hotel Commodore to discuss the United Nations Conference on International Organization. The general topic has been announced as *What Happened at San Francisco*. Organizations sponsoring the conference are the American Association for the United Nations, The Church Peace Union and World Alliance, the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, and the National Peace Conference. Subjects under discussion will include trusteeships, human rights, regional security, world court, economic and social planning, etc. The State Department will send a speaker, and several of the consultants to the American delegation are expected to report their reactions to the San Francisco Conference.

Dr. Atkinson Given Brandeis Award

The Louis D. Brandeis Award, established by the Jewish Forum "for outstanding service to humanity," was presented recently to Dr. Henry A. Atkinson at a program in Town Hall in New York City. Dr. Atkinson was honored for his activities as Chairman of the Christian Council on Palestine and as co-Chairman of the Council Against Intolerance in America, for he has aroused "a sense of justice for the Jew at a time when least respect was manifested." His years of service as General Secretary of the Church Peace Union and the World Alliance were mentioned in the citation because Dr. Atkinson, "ever on guard with the help of his pen, . . . has striven for the ways of peace and progress in civilization."

Bishop Eivind Berggrav Escapes

The story of the courageous Norwegian Bishop who defied the Nazis has come to a dramatic climax. After three years imprisonment, Bishop Eivind Berggrav, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International World Alliance and head of the Norwegian State Church, disguised himself with a false mustache and escaped with the aid of his chief guard and the Swedish Consul of Oslo to a safe hiding place. According to reports recently received, the Bishop, whom the quislings had believed safely out of the way, had for a long time been leaving his "prison" night after night under disguise and had conducted, through a coded information service, one of the most successful of the underground movements.

Noted Visitors to the United States

Among the visitors who have recently honored us by their presence in the United States are the Rt. Rev. Dr. G. K. A. Bell, the Bishop of Chichester, England; the Rev. Marc Boegner, President of the Federation of Churches of France; Dr. Visser 't Hooft, Secretary of the World Council of Churches; and Dr. Hamilcar Alivisatos, representing the Greek Churches. All these men have been received by the Federal Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, and representatives of the World Alliance.

A Commission on Human Rights

The enthusiasm which greeted the suggestion to create a Commission on Human Rights as part of the Economic and Social Council and to incorporate an International Bill of Rights into the charter of the new International Organization was one of the surprising developments of the San Francisco Conference.

The idea had been carefully nurtured for months on end by many individuals and groups, most of whom had hoped that in some future year the project might be placed on the agenda of the International Organization. Most of the American delegation remained silent on the issue. When, however, the consultants at San Francisco insisted upon consideration of the idea, they awakened the full support of Secretary Stettinius. Stassen and Stettinius joined hands as leaders of the American delegation to lend official support to the creation of a Commission on Human Rights as projected by Professor James Shotwell and the members of his Commission which had been working on this problem for more than two years. The Four Powers agreed to unite in supporting such a suggestion and the American delegation took the initiative in introducing the measure. Thus it is now definitely assured that a Commission on Human Rights will be included in the set-up of the Economic and Social Council.

Origin In Shotwell Commission

The original impetus had come from the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, of which Professor James Shotwell is chairman and Mr. Clark Eichelberger is director, and of which Mr. Beryl Harold Levy was counsel. Mr. Levy, prominent New York attorney and distinguished legal authority, devoted an entire year to a report on the problem of human rights, emerging with the recommendation for a Commission.

Called together in July of 1944 by the Shotwell Commission under the chairmanship of Dr. William Allen Nielson, the representatives of several score organizations promised to aid in publicizing the issues and to create a public demand for international cooperation in the defense of basic human rights. Consequently, by the autumn, there was a veritable deluge of statements on human rights. Some were brief and others long, but all sounded the same theme and were set forth by such groups as the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the American Law Institute, the American Jewish Conference, the Civil Liberties Union, the Universities Committee on International Problems, Americans United for World Organization, etc.

Question of "Group Rights"

The American Jewish Committee had given wide publicity to the project by securing the signatures of 1,326 distinguished Americans for "A Declaration of Human Rights" issued on the 153rd anniversary of the ratification of the American Bill of Rights. This statement of the American Jewish Committee met with some criticism because (1) the Declaration specified no means of implementation such as a Commission designed to put it into effect (see letter to the N. Y. Times on January 28, 1945); and (2) the American Jewish Committee, through an understandable desire to avoid asking for "special privilege" for Jews, had studiously omitted any mention of specific minorities, in spite of the fact that the Jewish people were the first victims of the Hitler terror and the most ruthlessly devastated of all peoples in this war. "Group rights" were, however, specifically mentioned in the document put forward by the American Jewish Conference which asked for the defense of "the inalienable right of all religious, ethnic and cultural groups to maintain and foster their respective group identities on the basis of equality." The American Jewish Committee defended itself against this criticism of what seemed to many other Jewish groups a grievous gap, by saying "it may be debatable whether special minority rights will be needed in the future or not. It must be axiomatic, however, that no special rights can protect the Jews or any other group in a society lacking the foundation of equality and liberty."

Not all organizations shared the optimism implicit in this statement. The American Jewish Conference, a democratically chosen group, representing an overwhelming majority of the Jewish community in America, had foreseen the dire possibilities of a world inured to tyranny and persecution of minorities; and, in a resolution adopted two years ago in August, 1943, the Conference had warned against an easy optimism by demanding an International Bill of Human Rights and measures to enforce it. (A book on this particular question of group rights has been prepared by Professor Oscar Janowski of the College of the City of New York and will soon be published by the Macmillan Company.

Consultants Played Important Part

In later years the peoples of the world may look back to San Francisco and remember with genuine gratitude the contribution of the consultants. Had it not been for the insistence of the consultants, the subject might have been taken for granted by the various delegations. They would then have discovered at a later date that the question had been completely forgotten because no specific allusion had been made to human rights.

It cannot be repeated too often that there can be no such thing as a lasting peace unless it is founded on the decent treatment of human beings. Only by a forthright statement incorporated in the charter of the International Organization and by a Commission designated to see to it that that declaration is fulfilled in letter and spirit, can full justice be attained.

The Spirit of San Francisco

Dr. D. Elton Trueblood, Chaplain at Leland Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, served as the Church Peace Union consultant at the San Francisco Conference when Dr. Atkinson returned to the East. Dr. Trueblood has sent this article to describe the mood of the UNCIO's closing sessions:

The San Francisco Conference is likely to be remembered longest, not for the decisions which appear in print, but for certain important and far-reaching innovations that have to do with the spirit in which the Conference has been conducted. Much of this is hidden from the newspaper reporters, and most of it is hidden from the general public for whom they write; but it is striking and memorable for the consultants. Much of the public mistrust would be removed if it were known and understood.

The Role of the Consultants

The very notion of inviting consultants was a brilliant stroke. It was decided to ask forty-two organizations of national scope to appoint one consultant each and two associate consultants. By this latter means, affiliated organizations were afforded recognition and an opportunity to participate.

The whole enterprise has been a great experiment in democratic procedure. It means that the leaders of the American delegation, far from supposing that they have all the answers, have been eager to learn what representative Americans think. There has been increasing evidence, as the Conference has proceeded, that the opinions expressed by consultants and other advisory groups have influenced the minds of the delegates and have eventually found their way into the charter.

Reactions To The UNCIO Conference

It is likely that no one will be completely satisfied with the final form which the world organization takes — and this is inevitable in view of the conflicting human interests at stake — but the general result, insofar as spirit is concerned, is beyond what we could have hoped. The spirit of those who are most responsible for the success of the undertaking is seen especially in three ways:

1. *There is a terrific determination to leave no stone unturned to make possible a world without war.* The men most influential are working under a heavy burden of moral responsibility. They do not know that they will succeed, but they have a haunting sense of the magnitude of the human price if they do not succeed. They know that there is only one alternative to world organization, and that is a Third World War, as much worse than the Second as the Second was worse than the First. They know, moreover, that the choice is not between this imperfect organization and some ideal one, but between this and none at all.

2. *There is a realistic sense of the inadequacy of this or any other scheme.* The men most responsible are not naive believers in the success of a printed document. When objectors point out that some particular dire eventuality might not be prevented by anything in the charter, the answer given is that, if there is a will to war on the part of the great powers, neither this nor any other document will avoid war. All that a system can do is to facilitate peace when a will to peace exists. The will to peace comes in other ways, partly by an alteration of men's hearts. In short, the chief sponsors of the new system of world organization are disarmingly modest in their claims. They do not expect to produce a panacea.

3. *There is an open and teachable spirit that is most refreshing.* We have not seen any leaders who were so sure of the way that they wanted to inform without waiting to listen. At one meeting, the head of an important section listened to several objections to a particular phrase, which some thought invidious. The speaker stopped and asked the audience, "Do you really find these words objectionable?" Many said they did. "All right, then," replied the speaker, "I think we can change them." This incident was both symbolic and representative. It is the antithesis of the mood of the dictator.

Candor and Comradeship of the Conference

The whole manner of the Conference has been friendly and democratic. Mr. Stettinius and his helpers used first names freely in the Consultants' meetings. It was almost shocking when Professor Shotwell was addressed as "Jim," but the general effect was refreshing. These were not stuffed shirts, standing in their starched dignity.

This was no striped-pants diplomacy. This was the meeting of honest minds on the most important and serious practical problem of our day.

In all this there is very great hope. We cannot know whether the vast enterprise will succeed; we cannot suppose that the document now nearing completion is perfect; but we can know that a vast amount of good will and genuine humility have gone into the effort. It is at least a new day in some ways. It is at least a new day in that our leaders are sincerely trying to be responsive to informed public opinion. The most hopeful single thing about the Conference is not any particular decision but the mood in which the whole has been conceived and executed.

Security Issue at San Francisco

Miss Dorothy McConnell, editor of WORLD OUTLOOK, *and associate consultant for the Church Peace Union at San Francisco, discusses the main issue of the Conference:*

Before the meeting at San Francisco there was tension over the veto vote in the Security Council. As the meeting draws to a close there is still tension. The tension has taken the headlines of the papers. It has been talked about by men and women in the streets and it has evoked all manner of comment from pulpit and radio.

"Perfecting" The Charter

Meantime, as deadlocks have developed around the veto issue, the work of perfecting the Charter has gone on steadily and constructively. When I use the word "perfecting," I use it advisedly. In almost every instance, the amendments to the original Dumbarton Oaks proposals have been improvements. The work has been done by all countries, *including Russia.* In addition to the official delegations, the advisors, translators, technicians, and consultants have all contributed their counsel and assistance. In the case of the consultants, the help has been significant and almost revolutionary, because the people of a country are helping to create a World Charter.

Consultants' Contributions

The consultants of the United States delegation came to San Francisco as representatives of forty-two national organizations invited by the State Department. Some of the consultants came from people's organizations having vast memberships. Others came from groups which had been studying the organization of the world for peace since the beginning of the League of Nations. All of those present represented groups who had supported and given publicity to the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals. It may have been that they had been invited merely as a reward for this support and their consultative role was not to be taken too seriously. But they had been named consultants, and consultants they were determined to be! As the days went on, even the newspapers began to recognize the part they played.

Through their work important amendments were adopted by the United States — proposals concerning the World Court, the establishment of a Commission on Human Rights, changes in the composition of the Economic and Social Council. At one time, when it looked as if one of the consultants' proposals had been given scant consideration, the members of the U. S. delegation were questioned sharply. Certain technical advisors to the delegation explained — in those terms which only technical advisors can use — why further consideration had not been given. The consultants' group was restive under the explanation. Finally the Secretary of State said: "I can see that we have not given this proposal enough consideration. Prepare another draft. We will reconsider." And they did.

The Veto Power

Thus the people of the country expressed themselves, —usually on the side of progress. That was all to the good and much good was done by it. But still the veto hung over the Conference, only now it had become not so much a tension over the exercise of the veto power in the Security Council as it was a tension over whether Russia would let it be "softened."

In the old days of the League of Nations many good things were accomplished, some of which have prevailed even through the war, but the League did *not* make the world secure.

On the surface it may seem ridiculous that Russia is not willing, at this moment of writing, to relinquish the veto of discussions in the Security Council. But look below the surface: Russia is the only communist country in the world. She is quite aware that a discussion can be used as a force to create public opinion against her. She has not forgotten that she was voted out of the League of Nations. She is not prepared to take chances that will threaten her security. And security is her paramount concern.

All during the thirties and up until 1939, Russia was the most alert of all the nations to the threat of war. She was the most active, before Munich, in efforts to avert it. When she demands the veto power of discussion in the Security Council, it cannot be dismissed as merely a gesture of power by an emerging nation. She has been preoccupied with security from war too long. As long as she feels insecure the whole world organization is insecure. The only way, oddly enough, that she will feel secure without the veto is by strengthening and extending democracy within the democratic nations themselves. Furthermore, the democratic nations cannot extend democracy to its full extent with a nervous Russia in their midst. The process is interlocking.

A Long Look Ahead

The consultants at San Francisco, with few exceptions, realized this situation. They have already outlined the role they must play within their own constituencies. That role is to interpret the veto as an immediate security measure, to strengthen those articles dealing with the safeguards of democracy in the charter itself (many of which they helped to draft), and to counter the anti-Russian sentiment which may hinder the acceptance of the world charter.

By the time this appears some compromise may have been reached on the veto. But the situation that gave rise to the deadlock remains; and before it is entirely resolved, the tasks mentioned above must be carried through.

On The Political Homefront

Reciprocal Trade Agreements

The House Committee on Ways and Means on May 16 adopted the Doughton Bill to extend and expand the Reciprocal Trade Act substantially as written. The voting on the Bill followed party lines very closely. On May 22 this Act came before the House and the same party lines showed up in the debate. The vote was taken on Saturday, May 26 and was passed by 239 to 153. Representative Doughton said in opening the debate, "Our vote on this bill will be the first real test as to whether or not we are willing to participate in international cooperation or revert to a policy of political and economic isolation."

The issue will now come before the Senate. With the hearings in the Senate Finance Committee, of which Senator George is chairman, it is anticipated that there will be another close vote – in fact, too close for any complacency on the part of those who agree to the importance of passing this legislation. Churches and church people ought to use all the influence they can muster to support this important issue.

Informed Republican opinion throughout the country, as reported in the Gallup Poll recently, is ahead of the opinion as expressed by the Republican members of Congress. According to this poll, 75 per cent of the Republican voters were in favor of continuing the Trade Agreements' program, and only 7 per cent opposed; the balance of the Republican voters were undecided.

Bretton Woods Proposals

A second matter of grave concern is the imminent vote on the Bretton Woods Proposals. These Proposals have been amended and made to conform more nearly to the report of the Committee on Economic Development. In the House Banking and Currency Committee the vote was 23 in favor and 3 against this compromise; this indicates the acceptance of the Proposals as far as the House of Representatives is concerned. The hearings have now begun on this bill. The next four or five weeks will be decisive.

Johnson Act

On May 24 the Senate Finance Committee began action on the repeal of the Johnson Act. Assistant Secretary of State Will Clayton contended in his testimony that repeal would have a "salutary effect" on all efforts to promote world peace. Reminding the Committee that the Johnson Act prohibits loans by private American investors to foreign governments who have defaulted on their World War I debts, Mr. Clayton said, "It is in our own interest to be free to make urgently needed loans to the European countries and speed their rehabilitation and recovery," for "we want and need all the markets we can get." The Committee seemed to favor the repeal with the exception of Senator Bushfield, Republican of South Dakota, and Senator Hiram Johnson, Republican of California, who was the author of the original Act. Senator Edwin Johnson, Democrat of Colorado, suggested as an alternative that the war debts be completely cancelled; it was pointed out by Mr. Clayton, however, that such a step would not remove the ban on future American loans.

International Office of Education

The House Resolution calling for the establishment of an International Office of Education was introduced by Representative Karl E. Mundt, and was passed without opposition on May 22. The corresponding Senate resolution, introduced by Senators Robert A. Taft and J. William Fulbright, was unanimously reported out of the Committee on Education and Labor on May 22 and was passed without opposition by the Senate on May 24. This resolution is consistent with, but does not specifically authorize, the International Office of Education which was prepared in charter form at the United Nations Conference and is now being negotiated with other governments. The International Office of Education is expected to serve as a powerful force in bringing the nations of the world to a better knowledge of each other's problems, to foster the study of racial and religious differences, and to promote the understanding which is the basis of an ordered and civilized world. The International Office of Education is designed to:

(1) Rebuild morale among the peoples of the warring nations, both victor and vanquished;

(2) Aid in the reconstruction of schools, colleges, and libraries in the devastated lands of Europe and Asia;

(3) Banish discrimination on a basis of race, color, or religion;

(4) Improve educational standards by substituting merit and ability as criteria for educational opportunity;

(5) Clarify educational aims; and thus avoid the authoritarian type of education which regiments development and stymies the creative impulse, which flourishes upon the lie, and which will perish only under the impact of truth;

(6) Encourage the interchange of national ideals and cultures, and thereby create inter-nation comity;

(7) Facilitate the exchange of students from one country to another to increase international understanding; gain perspective for growing minds, sharpen the skills of student leaders, and enrich the experience of both visitor and visited;

(8) Create a world-mindedness as a counterbalance to narrow national-mindedness.

United or Divided

In his Founder's Day address of May 27th at Dropsie College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, ***Mr. Frank L. Weil,*** *President of the Jewish Welfare Board and Vice-President of the U.S.O., made this plea for unity:*

We are fighting the greatest war the world has ever seen. We have completed one part of that war and look forward eagerly to the completion of the remaining portion. This war is unparalleled in our experience. It began before a shot was fired. It will not be brought to an end until a considerable period after the last shot shall have been fired. It began with propaganda emanating from Germany directed at this country and the other countries of the world. When the fighting war is ended, the battle of words remains still to be won. It is not enough to have disposed of Hitler; it is necessary to dispose of his ideas. There is a great tendency on the homefront for people to believe that when the fighting war is ended, the responsibilities of war will have ceased. Unfortunately, the contrary is true. The propaganda remains to be defeated and can only be defeated on the homefront. The Nazis recognized this.

All of us perceive the existence in this country of some social and racial tensions. The great problems which lie ahead of us — of demobilization of the largest Armed Forces the world has ever seen, of reconversion of the largest war industry the world has ever seen, of dealing with the largest national debt the world has ever seen — all of these will exert their impact upon the tensions which we recognize exist and which Goebbels sought to magnify.

The late Jacob H. Schiff presented a friend of his, who was a Christian Bishop, with a copy of the Bible, in which he had written the inscription: "On the top of the mountain all roads meet." This is a striking definition of what is involved in unity. It is not necessary that all travel the same road, provided, however, that the roads tend to converge on the top of the mountain.

Unity is not the posession of any one group or any one individual. No one can say: "If you do not work with me, you have prevented unity." Unity is a result of the working together of all in common cause. Unity is a by-product of working hard together.

Philosophers have pointed out since the beginning of recorded history that men and women are willing to die together, but are not willing to live together. In war, the emergencies of the situation create common ground and a working understanding. In peace, it is imperative that effective understanding and tolerance of the rights of one's neighbor as an individual must develop, or there can be no peace at home and we cannot defeat the propaganda war which has been launched against us.

A Community Activity

The Woodbury League of Women Voters, Woodbury, Connecticut, recently presented before a group of their fellow citizens an informal dramatic sketch concerning the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals for a United Nations Organization.

In her introduction, the narrator of the program outlined the history of man's attempts to live peaceably with his fellowmen in ever larger and larger groups and emphasized the duty of every thinking citizen to enter into the "full study and discussion" of the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals urged by the State Department.

At her invitation the committee members arranged themselves before the audience in chairs placed in the familiar pattern of the State Department chart of the United Nations Organization, which hung on the wall of the room. In the back row were three members representing the International Court of Justice, the General Assembly, and the Security Council respectively, and in front of these were two members representing the Economic and Social Council and the Secretariat.

The first hypothetical problem was brought forward by the representatives of "Mauretania" and "Aquitania." Mauretania accused Aquitania of violating its fishery treaty, which had been properly filed with the United Nations Organization. Following them came two more imaginary countries with complicated questions concerning cotton tariffs, which were rapidly reducing one country to starvation and desperation. Soon two others arrived to carry on a dispute over an apparently insoluble boundary problem. The Secretariat then referred each group to the proper agency of the United Nations Organization.

At this point, the narrator explained briefly the personnel and function of the agency concerned, and then retired to allow the agency to present its solution of the difficulty. All was settled to the satisfaction of the parties concerned, except in the case of "Aquitania" which refused to abide by a decision of the Court of International Justice. She had to be called back before the Security Council, which, after trying in vain first arbitration and then economic pressure, finally resorted to a threat of force. The sight of an Air Force, sent by the Military Staffs Committee, promptly settled that problem, and the skit ended happily.

At the close the committee remained at the front of the room to assist the narrator in answering questions from the audience and to raise its own queries. Someone immediately asked what would have happened if Russia, Great Britain, or the United States had been the offender instead of Aquitania, and both committee and audience were off to a lively discussion of the important problems facing the San Francisco Conference.

SUGGESTED READING AND FILMS

Under The Cross and **The Struggle of the Dutch Church** by Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft; and **The European Churches** by W. T. Elmslie. American Committee for the World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. 10 cents, 25 cents, and 35 cents respectively.

These three booklets comprise a discerning analysis of the heroism of the European Churches during these tragic years of testing. Dr. 't Hooft describes the stamina and moral courage of Dutch Church leaders in their resistance to the Nazis. The late Dr. Elmslie's pamphlet covers in a broad sweep the work of the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Reformed Churches in recent years. In his pamphlet, *Under The Cross,* Dr. 't Hooft outlines the new insights that have been gained by the church during years of persecution; the exceptional opportunities for influence in postwar years are envisaged.

The Church's Battle For Europe's Soul by A. L. Warnshuis. World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. 25 cents per copy. Quantity prices on request.

The story of the European churches' struggle against dictatorship. Dr. Warnshuis describes his visit to war-ravaged Continent and Britain last winter. A picture of the present and a prospectus for the future work of the churches.

Let's Talk About World Peace Organization and What It Means to Farm People. Issued by U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C.

A study guide written in plain terms. Warns that question of food is one of principal problems facing the world and that prosperity of farms and well-being of farm people are the very bases of national prosperity. Church people in rural areas will be interested in this study guide. But city folk will be no less concerned, for their fate is at stake.

An Uncommon Man — Henry Wallace and Sixty Million Jobs by Frank Kingdon. Readers Press, Inc., New York. $2.00.

With accustomed vigor Dr. Kingdon presents one of our most valuable fellow citizens. He traces Wallace's idealism to the strong religious strain in his background, and at the same time shows that Wallace knows economic adjustments to be the only bases upon which any hopes for human happiness can be built. An irritating book to some but an informative, provocative book to all.

Greater Good Neighbor Policy by Wade Crawford Barclay. Willett, Clark & Co., Chicago. $2.50.

Dr. Barclay praises the American "good neighbor" policy instituted by President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull. This carefully written book discusses fairly the delicate questions of relations between Catholic and Protestants and the clash in South America of missionary interests.

The Predicament of Modern Man by D. Elton Trueblood. Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y. $1.00.

A careful diagnosis of our spiritual malaise and some suggested cures. Depicts the artificial, febrile nature of our "cut flower civilization" and its concomitant secularity. A winsome, compelling book.

New Perspectives on Peace edited by George B. DeHuszar. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. $2.50.

Distinguished authorities in the fields of geography, history, economics, etc., deal with the "problems of the peace," the subject of the Walgreen Foundation Lectures in the winter quarter of 1944 at the University of Chicago. The chapter by James Luther Adams on "The Religious Problem" is both stimulating and illuminating.

Jews in the Post-War World by Max Gottschalk and Abraham G. Duker. The Dryden Press, New York, N. Y. $3.00.

An excellent attempt at objectivity. Discusses not just the years after World War II, but tells the story of the Jewish people during and after World War I as well. In simple, eloquent prose, Jewish hopes and aspirations, sufferings and persecutions are presented.

What to Do With Japan by Wilfrid Fleisher. Doubleday, Doran, New York. $2.00.

Mr. Fleisher, a recognized authority on Far Eastern Affairs, writes on the perplexing problem of what should be done with Japan and her conquered lands at the conclusion of the war.

On A Note of Triumph by Norman Corwin. Simon and Shuster, New York. $1.50.

From the eloquent pen of radio's wonder boy producer, comes this hymn to the partial victory of VE Day. In poetic prose Corwin tells why we fought, what we won, and what we ought to have learned. Excellent for young people's programs and church dramatic groups.

Watch Tower Over Tomorrow. A State Department film on Dumbarton Oaks. Available for distribution to groups actively engaged in arousing public support for world organization. Points up importance of San Francisco Conference. Shows how Dumbarton Oaks Proposals will function when finally set up in organizational form. A 16mm. film. Running time is 15 minutes. Write directly to the State Department, Washington, D. C.

It Happened in Springfield. This film, praised by some and criticized by others, is a Warner Brothers featurette concerning the plan used in the schools of Springfield, Massachusetts to educate children for racial and religious tolerance. Effective, though limited in scope and not too specific. The film is 35mm. and the running time is 20 minutes. Write to Warner Brothers, 321 West 44th Street, New York, N. Y.